

Members

Rep. Charlie Brown, Chairperson  
Rep. Cindy Noe  
Sen. Connie Lawson  
Sen. Vi Simpson  
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Margie Payne  
Ronda Ames  
Valerie N. Markley  
Bryan Lett  
Caroline Doebbling  
Kurt Carlson  
Chris Taelman  
Jane Horn  
Dr. Danita Johnson-Hughes



## COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH

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Authority: IC 12-21-6.5

### MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

**Meeting Date:** September 23, 2008  
**Meeting Time:** 1:00 P.M.  
**Meeting Place:** State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 404  
**Meeting City:** Indianapolis, Indiana  
**Meeting Number:** 3

**Members Present:** Rep. Charlie Brown, Chairperson; Rep. Cindy Noe; Sen. Connie Lawson; Sen. Vi Simpson; Stacey Cornett; Margie Payne; Valerie N. Markley; Bryan Lett; Caroline Doebbling; Kurt Carlson; Chris Taelman; Jane Horn; Dr. Danita Johnson-Hughes.

**Members Absent:** Loretta Kroin; Kathleen O'Connell; Ronda Ames.

#### (1) Call to Order

**Chairperson Charlie Brown** called the meeting to order at 1:10 P.M.

#### (2) Discussion of Licensure of Individuals Providing Services to Individuals with

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

## **Addictions**

**Mr. Steve McCaffrey, President and CEO, Mental Health America of Indiana,** discussed the need to create a separate license for individuals providing services to persons with addictions. Mr. McCaffrey asked Dr. Lucy King to provide the Commission with information on the need for a separate licensing procedure. Dr. King told the members that there have been major changes and breakthroughs in the treatment for addictions. The relationship between addictions and other issues an individual faces requires special training to fully identify the best way to meet all of the needs of an individual. Mr. McCaffrey said that he and others concerned with providing services to individuals with addictions have been working to iron out issues in creating a new license. In response to questions from Chairperson Brown, Mr. McCaffrey indicated that there has been much discussion with interested parties to insure that there is consensus about the mental health counselor license, and he believes that there is enough agreement to craft the legislation.

### **(3) Report from the Medicaid Quality Advisory Committee**

**Mr. Steve McCaffrey, President and CEO, Mental Health America of Indiana,** told the Commission members that the Medicaid Quality Advisory Committee, created to advise the Drug Utilization Review Board, will expire in 2009. According to Mr. McCaffrey, the Advisory Committee has given valuable input to the Drug Utilization Review Board and should become a permanent committee.

### **(4) Information on the Integration Plan**

**(A) Mr. Paul Wilson, CEO, Park Center, Fort Wayne,** provided the members with information on implementation of the integration plan. (Exhibit 1) Mr. Wilson stated that the goal of the integration plan is to provide behavioral health within a primary health care setting or to provide primary health care in a behavioral health setting. Mr. Wilson stated that there are still a number of billing barriers to effectively providing the best integrated care.

**(B) Ms. Toni Estep, CEO, Open Door/BMH Health Center, Muncie, Indiana,** provided the Commission with information concerning the integrated services provided at the Open Door Center. (Exhibit 2) In addition to pointing out that there are billing barriers to providing integrated services, Ms. Estep discussed credentialing issues. Community health center credentialing is done on an individual-by-individual basis, but in mental health centers credentialing is done on a facility-wide basis. According to Ms. Estep, some uniformity and a single place to receive credentialing would be helpful.

### **(5) Information on Mental Health Courts, Indiana Judicial Center**

**Ms. Diane Mains, Indiana Judicial Center,** introduced **Judge Barbara Collins, Marion County Mental Health Court,** to discuss the importance of special problem solving courts including mental health courts. (Exhibits 3, 4, and 5)

### **(6) Additional Information from the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA)**

**Ms. Cathy Boggs, Director DMHA,** provided the Commission with additional information on the integration plan. (Exhibit 6)

### **(7) Discussion of Requests for Legislation**

**(A) Mr. Denny Jones, Administrator, Indiana University Psychiatric Associates, Inc. and President and CEO, Indiana University Management, Inc.,** provided the Commission with a plan to increase the number of psychiatrists practicing in Indiana. This was a follow up to Dr. Chris McDougale's presentation at the first meeting of the Commission on the shortage of psychiatrists in the State. (Exhibit 7) The plan Mr. Jones presented was formulated by a group including Dr McDougale, Ms. Boggs, Mr. McCaffrey, and other individuals. There are two parts to the plan. First, a new public psychiatry development program would be created to provide training for between four to six new psychiatric residents each year. The program would begin July 1, 2010, and have an estimated cost of \$371,211 per year. The second part of the program is a loan forgiveness program with four psychiatrists in the program the first year and eight new psychiatrists in the program the second year and each year thereafter. The maximum amount given to an individual for loan repayment would be \$25,000 per year.

**(B) Proposals for Legislation** were received from Mental Health America of Indiana (Exhibit 8); FSSA (Exhibit 9); the Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers, Inc. (Exhibit 10); Mr. Chris Taelman (Exhibit 11); and NAMI (Exhibit 12)

The following requests for drafts were made:

- (1) Bill for licensing of mental health counselors to treat individuals with addictions
- (2) Bill to create public psychiatry development program
- (3) Bill for loan forgiveness for psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric nurses
- (4) Bill for problem solving courts (this may come from the Sentencing Policy Study Committee)
- (5) Omnibus bill with other suggestions, including:
  - same drug formulary for mental health drugs for Department of Correction (DOC) and local jails as used by Medicaid
  - funding for diversion statute
  - continuation of Mental Health Medicaid Quality Advisory Committee
  - multi-agency task force on workforce development
  - bonding authority for a new Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center
  - technical assistance center for forensics
  - closing juvenile hearings during mental health and medical testimony
- (6) Resolution for full funding for community mental health centers
- (7) Resolution for topics for the Commission to study next year
  - alcohol tax increase
  - follow up on DOC plan to assist inmates who are being released and who are eligible for Medicaid to apply for Medicaid 30 days prior to release
  - funding streams for mental health care of the indigent and uninsured
  - consistent funding for local providers for mental health treatment
  - require that teachers be trained to identify mental health issues of students

## **(8) Adjournment**

**Chairperson Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:00 P.M.**